

FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 W. King Street  
York, PA 17401-1307  
Phone: 717-843-8597



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THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO

**PARISH VISITOR**  
**FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**VOL 55-ISSUE 3**

Website: [www.firststjohns.org](http://www.firststjohns.org)

**MARCH 2023**

THE SEASON OF  
**LENT**  
REPENTANCE, ALMSGIVING,  
AND  
SELF-DENIAL



**LENT 2023**  
Fast . Pray . Give



## SUNDAY WORSHIP

BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM

SERVICE 11:00 AM

"Till all have heard! Thanks be to God!"

### REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS AND WORSHIP

**Sunday -** 9:00 AM Bible Study  
11:00 AM Sunday Worship

**Monday-**  
*Panera bread distribution 9:00-11:00 AM*

**Wednesday**  
6:30 PM - Adult Choir (September through May/June)

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

[www.firststjohns.org](http://www.firststjohns.org)

### WELCOME

Our calling is for all to know Jesus as Lord and be an effective magnet involving lives for Jesus Christ. Worship should always be focused on God, the time honored traditions of worship are observed here, we want worship to be glorifying to God, honoring to God and reminding us of the greatness and glory of God. People say that they have truly worshipped after our Sunday morning service.

We are a very welcoming church and we want to help you to know Jesus.

### Contact Us

Phone 717.843.8597

**E-Mail:** [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)

First St. Johns Lutheran Church  
140 W. King St., York PA 17401

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### SUNDAY SERVICES

Communion and Non-Communion, Services are held during the month, Non-Communion services are held on the 5th Sunday of months with 5 Sundays.

We print bulletins in English (small and large print), and Chinese for morning worship. Please contact us in advance if you need a Spanish bulletin.

PHONE: (717) 843-8597

COME  
WORSHIP  
with us!



If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter by email please contact the church office at (717) 843-8597 or send an email to

[firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)



If you or someone you know is a shut-in, has an illness or is unable to worship with us due to other circumstances, please call the church office.

The church phone number is: 717-843-8597

OR

**EMAIL:** [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)



## Holy Week

### HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

There will be three opportunities to worship the "suffering Savior."

#### Palm / Passion Sunday

Sunday, April 2, 11:00 A.M.

#### Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 6, 7:00 P.M.

#### Good Friday

Friday April 7, 7:00 P.M.

This evening worship will be a choral Tenebrae service. The "Seven Words from the Cross" will be the focus.



### EASTER WORSHIP

#### Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 9, 11:00 A.M.

#### German Easter Worship

Sunday, April 16, 4:00 P.M.

Light refreshments with a German theme will follow the service.



**LENTEN WORSHIP**

**Sunday Mornings**

Come, worship with us and hear about our Savior's ultimate gift of love for us on Sunday mornings at 11:00 A.M.

March 12

March 19

March 26



**Wednesday Evenings**

Begin by having a light supper at 6:00 P.M. in the fellowship room.

Then join in a special series of sermons for Lent at 7:00 P.M.

March 8

March 15

March 22

March 29



**EASTER LILLIES**

**Order Forms and envelopes are at the back of the church.**

The cost for the lilies this year is \$12.00.

Nancy Hildebrand is also looking for Palm sponsors.



**Bible Study**



9:00 AM

**MARCH 2023 PARISH VISITOR**

**APRIL 2023 DEADLINE**

**Articles Due** Friday, March 24th  
**Send Date** Thursday, March 30th



**MEETINGS IN MARCH**

**Worship Committee**

**To be announced**

**Church Council –**

**Tuesday, March 14th at 6:00 pm**



**UPCOMING MARCH SERVICES**

March 5th- Communion (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent).

March 12<sup>th</sup>- Non-Communion (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent).

March 19<sup>th</sup>- Communion (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent).

March 26<sup>th</sup>- Non-Communion (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent).





First St. John's Lutheran Church  
 140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 / 843-8597

OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW JESUS  
 Bible Study 9:00 AM  
 Sunday Morning Service 11:00 AM

CHURCH OFFICE  
 Phone Number 717-843-8597

MARCH 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> Dinner 6:00 PM Lenten Service 7:00 PM Adult Choir after the service	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 2nd Sunday in Lent C / Purple	<b>6</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Dinner 6:00 PM Lenten Service 7:00 PM Adult Choir after the service	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 3rd Sunday in Lent NC / Purple	<b>13</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>14</b> CHURCH COUNCIL MTG. 6:00 PM	<b>15</b> Dinner 6:00 PM Lenten Service 7:00 PM Adult Choir after the service	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 4th Sunday in Lent C / Purple	<b>20</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Dinner 6:00 PM Lenten Service 7:00 PM Adult Choir after the service	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 5th Sunday in Lent NC / Purple	<b>27</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Dinner 6:00 PM Lenten Service 7:00 PM Adult Choir after the service	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	
		LAY READER Amy Stambaugh	USHERS Dave Stambaugh Bill Lupp	ALTAR GUILD Lois Stambaugh		



THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD

*Behold, you will  
 conceive in your womb  
 and bear a Son,  
 and you shall call  
 His name Jesus...*

PRAY WITH US

O God, from the family of your servant David you raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the husband of his blessed mother. Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



ST. JOSEPH, GUARDIAN OF JESUS

**TRUSTEE REPORT, PREPARED BY RICHARD SINDLINGER**  
**FOR MARCH NEWSLETTER**

**Projects completed Future projects to be completed at First St. John's**

1. Move the eternal light to the side of the Altar as approved by Church Council.
2. Install inside light to shine on Rose window (need approval from Church Council).
3. Repair and paint (or epoxy) the old boiler room floor.
4. Install the new janitor sink and shutoff controls.
5. Purchase and install window well covers for front and side of Parish Hall.
6. Reinstall and close in the water heater in basement kitchen.
7. Discuss replacing kitchen sink(s) and refrigerator.
8. Repair deteriorated plaster around windows in Parish Hall basement.
9. Remove unneeded items in Parish Hall basement and clean floor and stairs.
10. Remove all non church items on second floor of Parish Hall and reorganize records.
11. Discuss options to repair and renew the outside church entrance steps.
12. Install new floating floor (with trap door) in storage room next to the Altar.
13. New digital timing controls installed for the cross and the church front door lights.

Church Trustees  


**Bonnie Abendschoen**  
 138 Crown Pointe Drive  
 York, PA 17402

**Kim Thompson**  
 30 South Beaver Street  
 York, PA 17401

**Dawn Frey**  
 382 West North Street  
 York, PA 17401

**Joyce Devan**  
 2408 Lovegren Court  
 York, PA 17404

*If you are aware of any changes with those on the list please contact the church office.*

We encourage you to drop a card or letter to our shut-ins to let them know that they are missed and a valued member of the congregation.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS AT 2:00 AM**  
**ON SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2023**







#### PRAYERS

Christians especially in the Middle East– persecuted  
 Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving  
 Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home  
 Joyce Devan-Health issues  
 Kim Thompson-Health issues  
 Susan vanDyk-Baum  
 Ed Hanes (Nancy Hildebrand's brother)-Health issues  
 Jeanne Noll-Health issue  
 Ed Abendschoen-Health issues  
 Nancy Hildebrand-Health Issues  
 Jon Van Sliedrecht-Health issue  
 Bonnie Abendschoen-Health issues  
 David-Health issues (friend of Ed & Bonnie Abendschoen)  
 Karen Hildebrand-Health issues  
 Fran Shoff-Health issues  
 Tom Gibson-Health issues  
 Tammy Cahoon-Health issues  
 Lois Stambaugh-Health issues  
 The Christian Church in Northern Nigeria  
 Bonita Bollinger-Undergoing treatment for breast cancer  
 Mark Parent-Husband of Candy Parent (Bill Lupp's niece)-  
 Heart transplant  
 Anna vanDyk-Health issue  
 Vicar Geoff Abendschoen-Health issue  
 Karl vanDyk-Health issue  
 Lois Stambaugh-Health issue

#### FIRST TIME REQUESTS

#### SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen  
 Joyce Devan  
 Dawn Frey  
 Kim Thompson  
 Becky Lupp

#### LEADERS

Vicar Geoff Abendschoen, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Seifferlein, Pastor Merrell, Pastor Banach, Pastor Robertson, Pastor Schaefer. Sally Hiller, David Maack. District President John Denninger

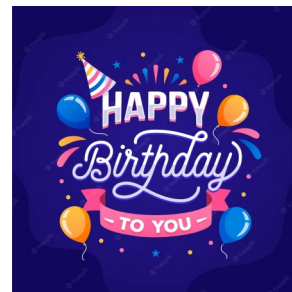
#### PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For all of God's Gifts

**We remember in prayer those who are in need of God's special presence in their**



**6th - Scott Dennis**  
**7th - Jerry Allison**  
**7th - Dane Smith**  
**13th - Rebecca Lupp**  
**18th - Ken Sanders**  
**20th - Lisa Crabtree**  
**22nd - Kristin Myers**  
**25th - Barbara Klahold**  
**25th - Dave Stambaugh**



#### Early April Birthdays

**11th - Carlos Beck**

#### PRAYER LIST (cont.)

##### SPIRITUAL NEEDS

For all those who do not know Jesus as Lord  
 For our "action" committees/task forces  
 Our Community and Families



##### MILITARY



##### POLICE

Jonathan



## VICAR REPORT

### FEBRUARY 2023

The Winter semester on **"The Books of Moses: The Beginning and The New Beginning."** concludes this Friday.

Pastor C. and I continue to connect on Thursday mornings to reflect on the current coursework, and we share in a devotional group every other Thursday at 6:30 am.

The next Winkel meeting is tentatively planned for March to be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Parkton, Md.

The Lenten rotation is set with Pastors Banach and Cosgrove. We will use the Lenten Series from Creative Communications called "Amazing Grace." It focuses on well-known people from the Bible who experienced God's amazing grace in their lives.

I'll be at St. John on March 2<sup>nd</sup> to lead devotions at the compassion center.

SED President Harmon will be at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Parkton, MD, for a meet and greet on Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, from 2-4:30 pm. A PowerPoint presentation will also be made, and all are invited. If you plan to attend, let me know by this Sunday so that Redeemer can determine the amount of refreshments they will need.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Vicar Geoff Abendschoen

We are at the beginning of Lent. During the Lenten season, the church calls to our attention the sufficiency of what God gives. It points to the sufficiency of God's grace in the atoning work of Jesus. It shows us the sufficiency of faith in Jesus' work for us. It makes known the sufficiency of God's Word in faith and life.

But Lent doesn't just remind us of the sufficiency of God's spiritual gifts — the gifts that pertain to our redemption and salvation. Lent also reminds us of the sufficiency of the physical, temporal gifts of God which pertain to this body and life. In other words, it reminds us of the importance of godly contentment and of outward discipline and training of the body.

This outward training of the body teaches us not to give in to every desire of our flesh, but to learn to say no to them. And it does this in such a way that if you fail, it is no sin. It is a way to practice without putting yourself into a compromising situation.

Fasting is a good example of this outward training. When you fast, you are practicing saying no to the desires of your body. But if you fail in this, if you break your fast, you have not sinned. But you have learned something about how your flesh works, how difficult it is to fight against it, and how you need help from above to discipline the desires of your body.

Another example is almsgiving. An increase in giving to the church and its mission during Lent is also a form of outward training. We all know that our flesh finds security in money and stuff. By committing to give more to the church, you are training your flesh. You are, by this outward discipline, training yourself to be content with what God gives. You are practicing saying "no" to your desires. Again, if you fail, you have not sinned. But you've learned just how powerful your flesh is — it leads you instead of you leading it. You've learned how you need help from above in being content with what God gives.

This is why St. Paul instructs young Pastor Timothy in this way:

But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. (1 Tim. 6:6–10)

Our sufficiency is not of ourselves; it is in God. Let us learn this without sin by training our flesh this Lenten season.



**FREE BREADS AND DESSERTS  
DONATED WEEKLY BY: PANERA BREAD**

**to First St. John's Lutheran Church  
140 W. King St., York, PA 17401**

**EVERY MONDAY**

**From 9:00 through 11:00 am - Pickup at the church**

**DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM**



**FIRST ST. JOHN'S MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

WE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGE YOU.  
ENJOY OUR "LIVE" WORSHIP.



Women's  
Care Center  
*Pregnant?*

**WOMEN'S CARE CENTER**

**Formerly Pregnancy & Family  
Resource Center**

**40 South Richland Avenue**

**York, PA 17404**

**Phone: (717) 854-6285**





## Music & Worship Notes



We are in the midst of the Lenten season. It is a good time to reflect on our own sinful lives as we hear this year of the people from scripture who were shown God's "Amazing Grace."

The Lenten season begins with Ash Wednesday and continues through Good Friday.

The five Wednesdays in March will begin with a meal at 6:00 pm followed by the service at 7:00 pm as was stated last month in the newsletter and in the tri-fold. Choir rehearsal will begin after the service on those Wednesdays.

As stated above, we will be hearing about people from the Bible that were shown God's "Amazing Grace." The sermons are delivered by two people. One is the pastor, who is like a narrator and proclaimer. The other person reads the part of the person from the Bible that the sermon is about. I am looking for people to read those parts. If you are interested, please contact me and I will see that you get a copy of the sermon ahead of time.

In Holy Week, (Palm Sunday through Good Friday), nothing except choir takes place on Wednesday. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday the service is at 7:00 pm.

Maundy Thursday is a communion service with the stripping of the altar at the end of the service. This prepares the worship space for the bleak starkness of Good Friday.

Good Friday will be a Tenebrae (service of darkness) service with the choir helping to lead worship. Because the church will gradually get darker throughout the service, you might consider bringing a small flashlight as the congregation will be singing throughout the service.



**Ken Sanders,  
MINISTER OF MUSIC**



**Lois Hollinger, Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh, Beverly Card, Ding Wang, Zihong (Andy) Su.**



***What will you do?***

## Taking Flight...on Butterfly Wings



**... but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...Romans 12: 2**

**Let's connect for fellowship... and transform the path of our Pen Mar Zone LWML**

Saturday, April 22, 2023. 9am – 12pm followed by lunch

Advent Lutheran Church 2230 Rock Spring Rd. Forest Hill, MD

Registration of \$5.00 per person (includes luncheon)

**Please reply by 4/15/23 to Verna Liescheidt 410-836-9391 OR freedom38@verizon.net.**

**Please bring with you:**

**MITE offerings for our district mission grants & A butterfly item that represents peace, joy, creativity, or reflection to you.**